

FISCAL NOTE

Bill #: HB0054

Title: Voter registration at polling booth on election day

Primary

Sponsor: Carol C. Juneau

Status: As Introduced

Sponsor signature

Date

Chuck Swysgood, Budget Director

Date

Fiscal Summary

	<u>FY2002</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY2003</u> <u>Difference</u>
Expenditures:		
General Fund	1,666,287	57,287
Revenue:		
General Fund	0	0
Net Impact on General Fund Balance:	(\$1,666,287)	(\$57,287)

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	
X		Significant Local Gov. Impact	X		Technical Concerns
	X	Included in the Executive Budget	X		Significant Long-Term Impacts
	X	Dedicated Revenue Form Attached	X		Family Impact Form Attached

Fiscal Analysis

ASSUMPTIONS:

1. Any citizen qualified to vote would be allowed to register to vote on election day.
2. It would be necessary to have a central voter database to ensure the integrity of the election system in Montana is maintained. This database is currently maintained by the Secretary of State's office.
3. There are 835 voting precincts in 56 counties in Montana. Equipment would be required in each polling place to allow the election judges to access the central election database.

4. The current centralized voter file system maintained by the Secretary of State's office would need to be modified to allow it to be accessible via the Internet.
5. There would be costs that would recur with every election including support personnel, storage, shipping, and Internet access charges.
6. It is assumed that every polling place would have phone lines available to allow Internet access to the central database. Extra costs may be required to install such phone lines that are not included in this note.
7. Funds to purchase the required equipment and ongoing costs are not available within the existing budget or revenue sources of the Secretary of State's office.

FISCAL IMPACT:

	<u>FY2002</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY2003</u> <u>Difference</u>
<u>Expenditures:</u>		
Operating Expenses	\$1,666,287	\$57,287
<u>Funding:</u>		
General Fund (01)	\$1,666,287	\$57,287
<u>Net Impact to Fund Balance (Revenue minus Expenditure):</u>		
General Fund (01)	(\$1,666,287)	(\$57,287)

EFFECT ON COUNTY OR OTHER LOCAL REVENUES OR EXPENDITURES:

An additional election judge would have to be hired for all 853 precincts in our state and be trained extensively.

Additional judges would cost approximately \$80,587 and additional ballots in would amount to approximately \$60,000. This cost would be realized every two years for the elections.

This bill may require local governments to spend additional sums for which no specific means of financing are provided.

LONG-RANGE IMPACTS:

In accordance with the state policy of a 4-year replacement cycle for computers, the computer equipment would be replaced at a cost of approximately \$1.6 million.